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PADIHAM URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Town Hall,
PADIHAM.

11th July, 1943.

To the Chairman and Members of the Urban District
Council of Padiham.

Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my seventeenth Annual Report dealing with the health of the inhabitants of Padiham during the year 1942.

Acting on the instructions of the Ministry of Health, this report will be an interim report confined to essential or urgent matters which have affected the Public Health during the year, outbreak of Infectious Diseases, etc.

STATISTICS.

Population:- Estimated Population in 1942 - 9,831
No. of Live Births registered:- Males - 59 (Leg. 53 Illeg. 6) Total
Females - 60 (Leg. 58 Illeg. 2) 119
No. of Still Births:- Males - 6, Females - 4. Total - 10
No. of Deaths registered:- Males - 70, Females - 66. Total - 136
No. of Deaths under one year of age:- Males - 4, Females - 5. Total - 9
Infantile Death Rate per 1000 live births:- 75.6
Birth Rate per 1000 of the estimated population:- 12.1
Death Rate per 1000 of the estimated population:- 12.81
Causes of Death:-

Cerebro Spinal Fever	2
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	4
Other Forms of Tuberculosis	1
Syphilitic Diseases	1
Influenza	2
Cancer	21
Diabetes	3
Intracranial Vascular lesions	8
Heart Disease	39
Other diseases of Circulatory System	2
Bronchitis	5
Pneumonia	5
Other Respiratory Diseases	2
Digestive Diseases	7
Nephritis	2
Premature Birth	1
Congenital Malformations	5
Suicide	1
Road Traffic accidents	1
Other Violent causes	5
All other causes	19

SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Unemployment still showed a very substantial decrease on the previous year, due, of course, to the transfer of men and women to occupations concerned with war activities.

A large number of the Firms doing Essential Work are running their own Canteens and in my opinion these should be able to cater better for patients suffering from such complaints as Gastric Ulcer, Duodenal Ulcer, Diabetes, etc. and so reduce the absenteeism due to sickness from these complaints.

The Health of the inhabitants has been remarkably good and so far as recreations are concerned, full advantage was taken of all the facilities controlled by the Local Authority and the various Sunday Schools, etc.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

WATER SUPPLY:- The Water Supply has been good, both in quality and quantity. Bacteriologically the water is keeping up to the standard that one expects from Chlorination.

SANITARY INSPECTIONS DURING THE YEAR.

No. of premises visited:- 3,747
No. of defects or nuisances:- No. discovered - 977, No. abated - 893.
No. of notices served:- Informal - 350, Statutory - 42.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

All the activities associated with the inspection and supervision of food have been closely watched by the Sanitary Inspector during the year.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS DISEASES, ETC.

1942 was more or less a normal year so far as Infectious Diseases are concerned.

Only 2 cases of Diphtheria cropped up and here, of course, credit must be given to the Immunisation Clinics which have been held each month. During 1942 91 pre-school children and 116 school children were immunised by me.

Scarlet Fever was particularly rife, 132 cases being reported. The type of disease was on the whole mild and no deaths were reported.

Measles was also present in epidemic form, 133 cases being reported. No deaths were recorded.

116 cases of Chicken Pox were reported but here also the type was mild.

TUBERCULOSIS: 15 cases of Tuberculosis were notified during the year, 11 Pulmonary and 4 Non-Pulmonary.

In connection with my duties as Medical Officer in charge of the First Aid Post and First Aid Party Depot, I would once again like to voice my appreciation of the services rendered by all the members. The attendances at practices have been particularly good and the members have been exceptionally keen in carrying out their duties.

The work done in the Sanitary Department has been well up to the usual good standard which we expect from our very efficient Sanitary Inspector and once again I would render thanks to him for his valuable co-operation and services.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

J. W. J. FORSYTHE.

Medical Officer of Health.